



**pennsylvania**

OFFICE OF VICTIM ADVOCATE

*Giving Crime Victims a Voice*

*Courage • Strength • Resilience*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 19, 2021**

## **The Rally for a Window**

**Harrisburg, PA** – The Office of Victim Advocate fully supports proposals aimed at ensuring all victims of sexual abuse have a path towards justice. A “look back window” grants Pennsylvanians who were children at the time of their abuse an opportunity to seek justice. Our office believes that a retroactive window is an equitable way to ensure victims and survivors can access justice.

We unite in solidarity with Child USA and Director Marci A. Hamilton and applaud their commitment and tenacity to this crucial issue impacting Pennsylvanians across the state. Multiple grand jury reports and investigations point to the need for change. We hear the voices of victims and survivors, and now we must take action and allow survivors to seek justice in our courts.

Numerous studies indicate delayed reporting is the norm and not the exception. It is time for our laws to reflect this fact. As we work to build safe and healthy communities, we must refute cultural norms that promote victim blaming and victim shaming and demand offender accountability.

*This discussion and its scope may deeply impact victims/survivors. There are confidential, free resources available through the [Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape](#) at 888-772-7227.*

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### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Ashley N. Walkowiak  
[anwalkowiak@pa.gov](mailto:anwalkowiak@pa.gov)

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